perpendicular to the first center line, into two second partial areas, in which, in each case, identical temperature gradients are applied in opposite directions perpendicularly to the second center line, and wherein, in the third step, different temperatures are applied in the four quadrants of the surface, which are formed by the first and second center lines.

<u>REMARKS</u>

With the present amendment, claim 15 has been amended to provide for consistency of the language in the body of claim 15 with the preamble.

Allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 3, 2005.